## **Collette's Story**

"It has been over 20 years since I got my DUI and I have never gotten behind the wheel after a drink since."

October 5, 2011 By Collette

My name is Collette and I am a former client of Alcohol Drug Council – High Gain Project in Santa Monica California. Growing up in a not so good area I was introduced to drugs and alcohol at a very early age. I do not consider that I ever had a problem with drugs or alcohol growing up but do feel that the occasional experimental partying with friends that I did was not appropriate in my early teens. In my college years I also was under the belief that drinking was cool and did it quite regularly with my college friends. It was at that time that I was and most of my friends were drinking and driving.

I am happy to say I quickly got caught doing it and I consider my experience one of the best of my life because of the lessons I learned. I was fortunate to have the support of Alcohol Drug Council – High Gain Project as my drinking driver education provider. My experience there was excellent. The education and group meetings were positive and thought provoking and I was able to work through anything that came up for me with my personal counselor who was amazing. I left the program with a positive outlook on life, knowing that mind altering substances and driving never mix, and realizing that a cab ride is never too expensive.

The best part is that I know I always have the support of Alcohol Drug Council – High Gain Project who has always had open arms to me when I have needed them. Over the years I have gone there for advice and sent others for help. It has been over 20 years since I got my DUI and I have never gotten behind the wheel after a drink since.